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## American University of Afghanistan in Kabul under attack

8/24/2016



Afghan security forces rush to respond to a complex attack on the campus of the American University of Afghanistan in Kabul on Wednesday, Aug. 24, 2016.

The American University of Afghanistan is under attack, according to multiple accounts.

CBS News' Ahmad Mukhtar reports from Afghanistan that several American professors are inside, along with possibly hundreds of students. Many appear to have escaped through emergency doors.

Reuters reports that the head of Kabul's hospitals, Mohammad Saleem Rasouly, says at least one student was killed and 14 were wounded in the attack.

Witnesses say they heard gunshots, then a blast, and many believe it was the gate blown open, letting the attackers inside.

American University President Mark English confirmed an attack to the Associated Press but did not provide details.

Police spokesman Sediq Sediqqi told the AP police and intelligence agency personnel are at the campus, on the western outskirts of Kabul. He said police believe there is just one assailant.

Pulitzer Prize-winning Associated Press photographer Massoud Hossaini had tweeted that he is trapped inside along with others, saying: "Help we are stuck inside AUAF and shooting followed by Explo this maybe my last tweets."

His tweets about the incident were later deleted, and in an interview with his company, he said he was in a classroom with 15 students when he heard an explosion on the southern flank of the campus.

"I went to the window to see what was going on, and I saw a person in normal clothes outside. He shot at me and shattered the glass," Hossaini said, adding that he fell on the glass and cut his hands.

The students then barricaded themselves into the classroom, pushing chairs and desks against the door, and staying on the floor.

Hossaini and about nine students managed to escape from the campus through a northern emergency gate.

"As we were running I saw someone lying on the ground face down, they looked like they had been shot in the back," he said.

Hossaini and the nine students took refuge in a residential house near the campus.